

STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

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August 6, 1985

Mr. Richard Blubaugh
Regulatory Affairs Manager
Atlas Minerals
P. O. Box 1207
Moab, Utah 84532

Dear Mr. Blubaugh:

Re: Site Tour of Atlas Minerals Louise, Standard #2, Dunn, Rim and
Columbus Mines, ACT/037/013, ACT/037/011, ACT/037/017 and
ACT/037/006, San Juan County, Utah

The Division personnel involved in the site tour of the above mines would like to thank you for taking time to lead us on the tour. Overall, the Division is satisfied with the condition of the inactive mine sites. The following comments and suggestions pertaining to the mine sites have been prepared and are now being relayed to Atlas Minerals.

The Louise Mine site appeared to be stable with no evidence of major erosion problems or any material moving off site due to precipitation runoff. No comments or suggestions have been prepared by the Division concerning the condition of the Louise Mine.

The Standard #2 Mine also appeared to be in good shape overall. The Division has prepared some suggestions concerning steps Atlas could take to reduce erosional problems associated with the low grade ore pile and the road from the lower pad to the upper pad. The gullying that is occurring on the southwest flank poses a potential for material to move off site. Patching the gully with straw and compacted waste material may stop the gully from moving up the slope. A breach in the berm along the road on the east side of the low grade ore pile was observed. Erosion of material off the pile and through the breached berm is a possibility. Patching the berm and building a water bar to divert any runoff away from the berm would reduce the possibility of low grade ore being transported off site. Additionally, if a small caterpillar is to be used onsite, regrading of the road leading to the upper pad area would help to minimize any further erosion.

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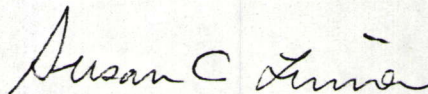
A small breach in the berm surrounding the development waste at the Dunn Mine was observed. The Division suggests that the berm be repaired to allow containment of water. At the time of the berm repair, consideration should be given to the installation of a riser pipe discharge structure. The culvert draining the road leading into the mine site was directed to flow into the berm area around the development waste. Redirecting the flow out of the culvert so it will not enter the bermed area should be considered.

The Rim Mine appears to be in good shape and the Division has no comments or suggestions concerning this site.

The issue of responsibility for reclamation at the Columbus Mine has been reviewed by the Division. Records on file at the Division indicate that as part of the overall reclamation plan for the Rim Mine, the portals at the Columbus Mine will be sealed by Atlas. Responsibility for the reclamation of the extensive waste development and low grade ore dumps are not part of Atlas Minerals reclamation plan as approved by the Division. Therefore, the Division has no comment or suggestions at this time concerning the Columbus Mine Site.

Again, we would like to thank you for your cooperation during our site visit. As always please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Susan C. Linner
Reclamation Biologist/
Permit Supervisor

jvb
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